



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

August 13, 2014

FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota
Attention: F-6001
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado
Attention: J-4120
Facilities Manager, Hardin, Montana
Attention: MT-300: Tom Tauscher
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6040
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming
Attention: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana /s/ Stephanie Micek

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 14-80**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3639.78; Storage: 1,017,810 acre-feet; River Release: 1,500 cfs; Inflow: 2,900 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

During August 18-29, maintenance will be performed on the Afterbay Dam sluice gates. To allow for the maintenance, all water released out of the Afterbay to the Bighorn River will be released through the spillway radial gates. To allow for the water to be released to the river through the spillway radial gates, the level of the Afterbay must be maintained between elevations 3186-3190. In response, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

SPECIAL NOTE: To provide the proper mixing of water releases to the Bighorn River in attempt to minimize PSAT levels, it is desirable to maintain the Yellowtail Afterbay Reservoir between a maximum elevation of 3192.0 feet and a minimum elevation of 3183.6 feet and provide a mixing flow of approximately 75% through the spillway gates and 25% through the sluice gates, plus or minus 10%.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

During 0800 hour on Monday, August 18, 2014 through 1700 hour on Friday August 29, 2014:
Maintain average daily turbine release at 2,930 cfs (\approx 2,070 MW-Hours/day using 34.0 cfs/mw).

Due to major unit re-wind project, restrict and limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

During 0800 hour on Monday, August 18, 2014 through 1700 hour on Friday August 29, 2014:
*Maintain diversion to the Bighorn Canal at 375 cfs (gage height = 74.23 with -1.23 shift).
Maintain river release at 2,625 cfs (gage height = 60.65 with -0.55 shift).
Maintain total release from the Afterbay at 3,000 cfs.*

Special Note: To allow for all water releases from the Afterbay to the Bighorn River, the level of the Afterbay must be maintained between elevation 3186-3190 at all times.